

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for tying together objects, at least one of which is a bone part, using a surgical cable, the method comprising the sequential steps of:

 laying a surgical cable made of a polymer fiber, having two end parts,
 around at least part of the objects to be tied together, wherein the
 cable is a twisted yarn having an eye at least at one of the end
 parts;

 connecting the end parts of the cable together,
 exerting a torsion force on the end parts to thereby responsively bring the
 cable under a tension required for tying together the objects with
 the help of a device, and

 locking the tensioned cable against the influence of forces acting counter
 to the exerted torsion force thereon.
2. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the polymer fiber is a high performance high molecular weight polyethylene fiber.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein the cable has an eye at both of the end parts ~~ends~~.
6. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein the force is exerted on the cable through the eye ~~or the eyes~~ at least at one of the end parts.

7. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 5, wherein a torsion force is exerted on a twisting device running through the eyes.
8. (Previously presented) Method ~~according to claim 1~~, for tying together objects, at least one of which is a bone part, using a surgical cable, the method comprising the sequential steps of:
laying a surgical cable made of a polymer fiber, having two end parts,
around at least part of the objects to be tied together;
connecting the end parts of the cable together,
exerting a torsion force on the end parts to thereby responsively bring the
cable under a tension required for tying together the objects with
the help of a device, and
locking the tensioned cable against the influence of forces acting counter
to the exerted torsion force thereon, wherein
the cable is a loop of fibers that has been closed by a splice which is folded around the bone parts forming two returning ends in the cable as end parts.
9. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 8, wherein a torsion force is exerted on the cable through the returning ends.
10. (Original) Method according to claim 9, wherein the torsion force is exerted on a twisting device running through the returning ends.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) Method ~~according to claim 12~~, for tying together objects, at least one of which is a bone part, using a surgical cable, the method comprising the sequential steps of:

laying a surgical cable made of a polymer fiber, having two end parts,
around at least part of the objects to be tied together;
connecting the end parts of the cable together,
exerting a torsion force on the end parts to thereby responsively bring the
cable under a tension required for tying together the objects with
the help of a device, and
locking the tensioned cable against the influence of forces acting counter
to the exerted torsion force thereon, wherein
the cable is a bundle of fibers of finite length, the two end parts are
connected with a knot, and a torsion force is exerted on the cable
below the knot.

14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the method concerns fixing at least two bone parts.
16. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 8, wherein the splice comprises an air splice.
17. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the exerted force comprises a drawing force and a twisting force.
18. (Previously presented) Method ~~according to claim 1,~~ for tying together objects, at least one of which is a bone part, using a surgical cable, the method comprising the sequential steps of:
laying a surgical cable made of a polymer fiber, having two end parts,
around at least part of the objects to be tied together;
connecting the end parts of the cable together,
exerting a torsion force on the end parts to thereby responsively bring the
cable under a tension required for tying together the objects with
the help of a device, and

locking the tensioned cable against the influence of forces acting counter
to the exerted torsion force thereon, wherein
the cable comprises a flat braid of high performance fibers.

19. (Previously Presented) Method of fixing bone parts comprising the sequential steps of:
 - (a) placing a surgical cable having end parts around the bone parts to be fixed;
 - (b) connecting the end parts of the surgical cable together;
 - (c) inserting a device between the connected end parts of the surgical cable and the bone parts to be fixed;
 - (d) twisting the device so as to exert a torsion force on the connected end parts and thereby responsively induce a tension in the surgical cable sufficient to urge the bone parts together; and
 - (e) maintaining the tension in the surgical cable sufficient to hold the bone parts together.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 19, wherein the two end parts are connected together by a knot.
22. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 19, wherein the two end parts are connected together by a splice.
23. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1 or 19, wherein the surgical cable comprises polyethylene fibers having a tensile strength of at least 1.8 Gpa and a modulus of at least 60 Gpa.